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INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

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ACTION CAP-00

ACTION OFFICE CM-05

INFO J-05 K-03 TS-02 TC-01 P-01 RA-01 LAB-01 UN-01 CAP-05  
A-01 OPR-02 AEX-01 /023 A1 DT

INFO LOG-00 AOS-00 AIO-00 INR-07 EUR-00 SS-00 OPR-00  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-01 NSCE-00 NSAC-00 SSO-00 NA-05  
L-03 CTR-00 TRSE-00 PM-10 AIT-02 PA-01 CCG-00  
DHB-01 INRE-00 OCS-06 CA-02 FBOC-05 ACDA-12 A-00  
USSS-00 USIE-00 SP-02 OC-01 H-01 SR-05 SXP-01  
FAIM-01 PRS-01 DS-00 SCT-02 P-02 T-01 /073 V  
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FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0316  
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
AIT TAIPEI  
USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI  
AMCONSUL GUANGZHOU  
AMCONSUL SHANGHAI  
DIA WASHDC  
AMCONSUL SHENYANG POUCHI  
AMCONSUL CHENGDU POUCHI

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NSC FOR BOUG PAAL  
CINCPAC FOR FPA

DIA PASS AIG 11844

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: POOV, PRUM, SOCI, CH

SUBJECT: TFCN01--AN OCCURRENCE AT JIANGUOMEN BRIDGE:  
JUNE 7

1. ENTIRE TEXT - CONFIDENTIAL.

2. SUMMARY. THIS MESSAGE TRANSMITS DETAILS OF EVENTS THAT LED TO THE SURROUNDING OF THE JIANGUOMENVAI DIPLOMATIC COMPOUND ON JUNE 7, AS WITNESSED FROM INSIDE THE COMPOUND. TROOPSEX VEHICLES, AND TANKS FROM THE 38TH AND 39TH ARMIES AS WELL AS UNIDENTIFIED UNITS FIRST DEPLOYED TO THE EAST FROM JIANGUOMENVAI BRIDGE, FIRING A GOOD NUMBER OF ROUNDS TOWARDS ROOFTOPS. WINDOWS WERE KNOCKED OUT IN JIANGUOMENVAI AND IN THE CITIC OFFICE BUILDING'S UPPER STORIES. AROUND NOON TROOPS THAT HAD BEEN STATIONED ON THE SIDE OF THE SECOND RING ROAD NEXT TO THE DIPLOMATIC COMPOUND FANNED OUT ON THE NORTH AND EAST SIDES OF THE COMPOUND AND MOVED SOUTH, CLEARLY SEARCHING FOR SOMEONE. AROUND 1 P.M. THE SAME TROOPS SEALED OFF THE DIPLOMATIC COMPOUND. AROUND 3 P.M. THE INCIDENT WAS OVER, WITH TROOPS TELLING A WESTERN REPORTER THAT THEY HAD CAUGHT THE SHIPER WHO HAD KILLED A SOLDIER AS THE CONVOY PASSED IN THE CITIC BUILDING AREA THAT MORNING. EHO SUMMARY.

3. AS THE AMBASSADOR CONVENED A GENERAL STAFF MEETING TO DISCUSS DETAILS OF EVACUATION AT 10 A.M. JUNE 7, [ ] CALLED HIS WIFE IN THE JIANGUOMENVAI DIPLOMATIC COMPOUND. SHE REPORTED THAT SHE WAS SEEING A LOT OF TROOP TRUCKS MOVING FROM CHANGANJIE DOWN TO THE

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JIANGUOMENVAI BRIDGE HEADING EAST. BY THE TIME SHE AND HER CHILDREN REACHED THE PARKING LOT, THE TROOPS ALREADY BEGAN FIRING. ALSO BY THAT TIME, [ ] HAD POSITIONED HIMSELF ON THE INTERSECTION OF DONGDAQIAO LU AND JIANGUOMENVAI DAJIE, ABOUT THREE LARGE CITY BLOCKS FROM THE CHANCERY.

4. AS THE TROOP TRUCKS APPROACHED, THE TROOPS IN THE LEAD TRUCKS CHANTED SLOGANS, EVEN WHILE THEY HELD THEIR RIFLES AT THE READY:

"PROTECT THE PEOPLE, PROTECT THE STUDENTS, UNITY IS STRENGTH"

WITHIN ONE MINUTE OF THE LEAD TRUCKS PASSING [ ] TROOPS IN FOLLOW-ON TRUCKS STARTED OPENING FIRE, POINTING THEIR WEAPONS UPWARD NEAR AND ABOVE ROOFTOPS BUT OCCASIONALLY LOWERING THEM WHENEVER ANYONE DID NOT COVER BEHIND WHATEVER COVER WAS AVAILABLE. THEIR PURPOSE WAS OBVIOUSLY TO INTIMIDATE ONLOOKERS, SO IT SEEMED.

THE FIRING WAS SPORADIC, BUT OCCASIONALLY HEAVY, PARTICULARLY IN THE AREA OF THE CITIC OFFICE BUILDING, WHICH HAS 26 STORIES. AN AMCT WHO WAS ON THE 25TH FLOOR LATER REPORTED TO THE EMBASSY THAT BULLETS BROKE THE GLASS IN HIS OFFICE AND PERETRATED THROUGH THE DRY WALL. HE PASSED THIS ON TO THE EMBASSY ON

HIS WAY TO THE LIDO HOTEL, SAYING HE HAD HAD ENOUGH OF LIVING ON THE MAIN STREET.

THE TROOP MOVEMENT HAD PASSED [ ] IN ABOUT TWENTY-FIVE MINUTES. EACH TROOP TRUCK HAD APPROXIMATELY 24 SOLDIERS, STANDING WITH RIFLES AT READY. THERE WERE TWO JEEPS AND ONE PETROLEUM TANKER AS WELL. LICENSE PLATE NUMBERS, E.G., VII-3510, VII-3525, AND E05-0539, E05-0003, CONFIRMED WHAT THE PEDESTRIANS TOLD [ ] NAMELY, THAT THE UNIT WAS THE 35TH ARMY FROM SHENYANG. THE CHINESE CROUCHING BEHIND STATION WAGON ALSO SAID THAT THE UNIT HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN THE JUNE 4 EARLY MORNING OCCUPATION OF TIANANMEN SQUARE.

5. [ ]  
[ ]  
[ ] AROUND NOON [ ]  
[ ] THAT A NUMBER OF TANKS WHICH HAD RACED EAST WERE FOLLOWED BY SEVERAL COMPANIES OF SOLDIERS NOT IN FULL UNIFORM. A [ ]

[ ] THE SOLDIERS FOLLOWING THE TANKS STOPPED IN THE MIDDLE OF THE JIANGUOMEN BRIDGE, WITH SEVERAL OTHER TANKS STILL ENPLACED AS THEY HAD BEEN FOR SEVERAL DAYS.

6. SHORTLY THEREAFTER, SEVENTY SOLDIERS WHO HAD BEEN BROUGHT IN BY TRUCK DURING THE NIGHT OF JUNE 5 LEFT THEIR ENCAMPMENT ABOUT THREE HUNDRED METERS NORTH OF BUILDING 32 IN THE JIANGUOMENVAI COMPOUND ON THE SECOND RING ROAD. THE SOLDIERS RAN WITH RIFLES READY TOWARD THE BRIDGE, A DISTANCE OF ABOUT THREE CITY BLOCKS. A FEW MINUTES LATER MOST OF THE SOLDIERS RETURNED NORTH, BUT INSTEAD OF GOING BACK TO THEIR TRUCKS THEY FANNED OUT ALONG GUANGHUA LU TOWARD THE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE

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AND BITAN PARN. THEY THEN HEADED SOUTH TOWARD  
THE GAS STATION, AND FISHED BACK IN WEST TOWARD  
THE DIPLOMATIC COMPOUND, GUNS AT THE READY. THEY  
WERE OBVIOUSLY SEARCHING FOR SOMEONE, LOOKING BEHIND  
PILES OF BRICKS, TREES, ETC. ANOTHER AMERICAN  
JOURNALIST WHO HAD SPOKE WITH SOME OF THE TROOPS  
WAS TOLD THAT THE SOLDIERS WERE SEARCHING FOR A  
SHIPER WHO HAD KILLED A SOLDIER AS THE ORIGINAL  
CONVOY HAD MOVED EAST. THEY THOUGHT THE SHIPER HAD  
FIRED FROM JIANGUOMENVAI BUILDING 1 OR CITIC,  
WHICH MIGHT EXPLAIN WHY SEVERAL ENSOFFS' APARTMENT  
WINDOWS IN BUILDING ONE WERE SHOT OUT. AROUND  
1:00 P.M., THE SOLDIERS HAD SEALED OFF THE  
DIPLOMATIC COMPOUND, ALLOWING NEITHER EGRESS  
NOR INGRESS TO ANYONE. UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPTS WERE

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WERE ENGAGING IN SOME OTHER KIND OF MANEUVER.  
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MADE BY THE THAI AMBASSADOR, THE SOVIET EMBASSY,  
AND THE U.S. EMBASSY RSO, AMONG OTHERS, TO GAIN  
ENTRANCE. THE PLATOON LEADER OF THE UNIT  
SECURING THE NORTH GATE WAS ENGAGED BY AN AARMA  
WHO EXPLAINED THAT THE U.S. FAMILIES INSIDE WERE  
VERY NERVOUS AND WANTED TO LEAVE. THE PLATOON  
LEADER EXPLAINED THAT A SHIPER HAD FIRED ON HIS  
UNIT, THAT A SEARCH WAS TO BE CONDUCTED, AND  
THAT THERE WAS NO DANGER TO FOREIGN DIPLOMATS.  
AT AARMA'S AND RSO'S URGING, HE ALLOWED A DOZEN  
EMBASSY DEPENDENTS TO LEAVE. TEN MINUTES LATER  
A SECOND GROUP OF ABOUT SIX EMBASSY PERSONNEL  
AND DEPENDENTS TRIED TO EXIT. THE AARMA SPOKE  
TO THE PLATOON LEADER AGAIN, AND THIS TIME WAS  
TOLD THAT THE ORDERS WERE FIRM, NO ONE COULD  
EXIT. THE PLA PLATOON LEADER ONCE MORE STATED  
THAT THERE WAS NO DANGER TO FOREIGN DIPLOMATS.  
AARMA ASKED IF THERE WAS A SAFE PLACE FOR THE  
FOREIGN DIPLOMATS TO GATHER, AND WAS ASKED TO  
HAVE ALL FOREIGN PERSONNEL MOVE INTO THE FIRST  
FLOOR OF A BUILDING FOR SAFETY. THE PLATOON  
LEADER ALSO PERMITTED RSO TO PASS A RADIO IN TO  
AN ENSOFF. U.S. EMBASSY PERSONNEL WERE ONCE  
MORE REASSURED OF THE SAFETY OF THEIR DEPENDENTS  
AND TOLD THIS WAS A TEMPORARY SITUATION.

7. AROUND 3 P.M. ANOTHER POLOFF WATCHED AS PLAIN  
CLOTHES SECURITY OFFICIALS PULLED A YOUNG, LONG-HAIRED  
BUT OTHERWISE XENY CHINESE OUT OF THE NEW NORTH GATE  
OF THE DIPLOMATIC COMPOUND. HE WAS FIRST PUT INTO  
THE GUARD STATION USED BY THE PEOPLE'S ARMED POLICE  
WHO ROUTINELY GUARD THE COMPOUND BEFORE FINALLY BEING  
TAKEN AWAY. WHEN THE YOUTH WAS PUT IN THE GUARDHOUSE  
A HOUSING BUREAU OFFICIAL CLAPPED HIS HANDS OVER HIS  
HEAD AND SHORTLY THEREAFTER THE TROOPS ALLOWED THE  
GATES TO BE OPENED AND REGULAR TRAFFIC TO RESUME.  
THE INCIDENT WAS OVER. THE HOUSING OFFICIAL HAD ALSO  
COMMENTED WITHIN POLOFF'S HEARING THAT THE MFA  
HAD INTERVENED ON THE DIPLOMAT'S BEHALF AND THAT  
THE DIPLOMATS COULD GO NOW. THE SOLDIERS WITHDREW.

8. BY WAY OF POSTSCRIPT, AROUND 6 P.M. ANOTHER  
ENSOFF DACKING OUT OF HIS APARTMENT IN BUILDING 6  
OF THE JIANGUOMENVAI COMPOUND WATCHED AS EIGHTEEN  
TANKS LUMBERED OFF THE JIANGUOMENVAI BRIDGE HEADING  
TOWARD TIANANMEN, LEAVING THE INTERSECTION CLEAR FOR  
THE FIRST TIME IN DAYS. AS OF 7 P.M. JUNE 7 IT WAS NOT  
CLEAR WHETHER REPLACEMENTS WERE ON THE WAY OR  
WHETHER THE INTERSECTION WOULD REMAIN CLEAR. TIME  
WILL TELL WHETHER THERE WAS A MAJOR TROOP ROTATION  
UNDERWAY, UPSET BY AN INCIDENT IN WHICH THE TROOPS  
BELIEVED THEY WERE UNDER SHIPER FIRE, OR WHETHER  
SOME ELEMENTS OF THE 39TH ARMY, AND PROBABLY  
BOTH THE 38TH ARMY AND THE FIRST TANK DIVISION,

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